

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04923 031608Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01
SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07
TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 DOEE-00 HEW-04 HA-05
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7884
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD
SUBJECT: UNCTAD - BRAIN DRAIN STUDY UNGA RESOLUTION 32/192

REF: GENEVA 3696

1. DURING COURSE OF MEETING OF WORKING PARTY ON MEDIUM TERM PLAN OF UNCTAD, DIRECTOR OF UNCTAD TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY DIVISION ANNOUNCED THAT STUDY CALLED FOR IN OPERATIVE PARA 5 OF UNGA RESOLUTION 32/192 HAS BEEN REASSIGNED BY ESA NEW YORK BACK TO UNCTAD TO CARRY OUT, IN COOPERATION WITH THE ILO. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THIS MISSION, DECISION WAS TAKEN AT VERY HIGH LEVEL WITHIN UN NEW YORK SECRETARIAT WHICH APPARENTLY PROVED TO BE UNABLE TO RESIST PRESSURES OF UNCTAD SECRETARIAT TO INJECT ITSELF INTO MATTER. UNCTAD SECRETARIAT APPARENTLY ASSERTED THAT THERE IS STRONG LDC/G-77 INTEREST IN FACT THAT STUDY SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT UNDER UNCTAD AUSPICES. THIS IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE; MOST G-77 GENEVA SUPREMELY DISINTERESTED IN SUBJECT AND NOT

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04923 031608Z

PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO SEE MATTER CONTINUE TO BE DISCUSSED IN UNCTAD.

2. NEW YORK'S ACTION OF REASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR STUDY TO UNCTAD IS A COMPLETE GUTTING OF INTENTION OF UNGA RES 32/192 WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO ASSURE CONSIDERATION IN NEW YORK BY COMPETENT BODY WHICH COULD ENSURE THAT

STUDIES ENCOMPASSED BROAD SCOPE OF FACTORS INVOLVED IN BRAIN DRAIN PROBLEM, I.E., EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS, LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, POLITICAL ISSUES, ETC. SHOULD UNCTAD CONTINUE TO BE PLACED IN CHARGE OF STUDY, ONE CAN ONLY EXPECT THE MOST BIASED PRESENTATION POSSIBLE EMPHASIZING STRONGLY THE COMPENSATION SCHEMES PUT FORWARD BY UNCTAD SECRETARIAT AT MEETING OF EXPERT GROUP (SEE REFTEL) BASED ON PSEUDO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF SUPPOSED DAMAGE DONE LDCS BY MIGRATION TO DCS OF PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL. SHOULD UNCTAD CONTINUE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY, ONE COULD EASILY IMAGINE THAT THE SO-CALLED REVERSE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ISSUE COULD BE ONE OF THE MAJOR POINTS OF CONTENTION AT UNCTAD V.

3. WE BELIEVE U.S. GOVERNMENT SHOULD STRONGLY PROTEST ESA ABDICATION OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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